UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA SAVANNAH DIVISION

| UNITED STATES OF AMERICA |) | |
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| |) | |
| |) | |
| v. |) | CR413-111-01 |
| |) | |
| MARVIN BRYANT, JR., |) | |
| |) | |
| Defendant. |) | |

REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION

In 2014, Marvin Bryant, Jr. pleaded guilty to possession of a firearm by a felon. Doc. 49 at 1. His sentence included three years of supervised release, which Bryant began on March 24, 2020. *Id.* at 3; see also doc. 63 at 1. On November 9, 2021, the United States Probation Office moved to revoke Bryant's supervised release. See generally id. An arrest warrant issued that day. Doc. 65. But the warrant was not executed until November 7, 2023, two years later and nearly eight months after Bryant's term of supervised release expired. Doc. 71; see doc. 63 at 1.

At Bryant's initial appearance, the Court afforded him an opportunity brief a potential jurisdictional issue—namely, that the Court may lack jurisdiction over his revocation proceedings because he was no

longer subject to supervised release, the Government had delayed executing an arrest warrant for supervised release violations for over two years, and that delay was not reasonably necessary. Doc. 75 (Minute Entry); see also 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i). The Government was invited to confer with Bryant on the jurisdictional issue and respond to any briefing. Doc. 75 (Minute Entry).

Bryant and the Government filed a Consent Motion agreeing that the Motion on Revocation of Supervised Release, doc. 63, should be dismissed based on lack of jurisdiction. Doc. 81. Having considered the motion, the Court **RECOMMENDS** that the Consent Motion, doc. 81, be **GRANTED** and the Motion on Revocation of Supervised Release, doc. 63, be **DISMISSED** for lack of jurisdiction under 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i).

"The power of the court to revoke a term of supervised release for violation of a condition of supervised release . . . extends beyond the expiration of the term of supervised release for any period reasonably necessary for the adjudication of matters arising before its expiration if, before its expiration, a warrant or summons has been issued on the basis of an allegation of such a violation." 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i). "Section [] 3583(i) is noteworthy . . . insofar as it does *not* merely set a deadline—it

expressly authorizes a grant of 'power' to the district court and conditions the existence of that power on a specific and minimally onerous event. [Cit.] The plain language of the statute, then, compels the conclusion that the deadline is jurisdictional." United States v. Merlino, 785 F.3d 79, 84 (3d Cir. 2015) (citations omitted); see also id. at 93 (Ambro, J., concurring) ("Myriad lower courts have referred to § 3583(i) . . . as implicating jurisdiction, and none of them to my knowledge have questioned that proposition."). The Eleventh Circuit has similarly recognized the Section's jurisdictional character. See United States v. White, 556 F. App'x 804, 808, 808 n. 1 (11th Cir. 2014) (noting that "[w]hether the district court had subject matter jurisdiction pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i) . . ." was not waived by the defendant's failure to raise the issue in the district court (emphasis added)). This Court has an obligation to examine its jurisdiction, whether challenged by a party or sua sponte. See, e.g., United States v. Lopez, 562 F.3d 1309, 1311 (11th Cir. 2009); Univ. of S. Ala. v. Am. Tobacco Co., 168 F.3d 405, 410 (11th Cir. 1999) ("[I]t is well settled that a federal court is obligated to inquire into subject matter jurisdiction *sua sponte* whenever it may be lacking."). Here, Bryant and the Government agree that the Court should dismiss

the Motion of Revocation for Supervised Released based on lack jurisdiction under 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i). See doc. 81.

This Court has previously held that a two-year delay between a warrant's issuance and its execution without justification or explanation as to why the delay was "reasonably necessary," 18 U.S.C. § 3583(i), deprives the Court of jurisdiction over revocation proceedings for a defendant whose term of supervised release has ended. *United States v. Moore*, CR414-303, doc. 45 at 3-8 (S.D. Ga. Dec. 20, 2022), adopted by doc. 47 (S.D. Ga. Feb. 2, 2023); *United States v. Edwards*, CR406-375-05, doc. 171 (S.D. Ga. Nov. 16, 2023). Other courts agree. *See e.g.*, *United States v. Dworkin*, 70 F. Supp. 2d 214 (E.D.N.Y. 1999). Here, as in *Moore* and *Edwards*, the United States delayed pursuing the supervised release violation allegations against Bryant for over two years. Docs. 65 & 71.

Although *Dworkin* is squarely analogous to the instant facts, there is a superficial distinction. *Dworkin* considered a challenge to the court's jurisdiction over a probation revocation proceeding, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3565(c). *See* 70 F. Supp. 2d at 216. Despite the different statutory basis, "[t]he language of § 3565(c) tracks the language of § 3583(i) almost *verbatim*, with the exception that 'probation' is used in place of 'supervised release." *United States v. Dumas*, 217 F. Supp. 3d 1310, 1312 (N.D. Ala. 2016). *Dumas* also acknowledged "that the Eleventh Circuit treats supervised release revocations and probation revocations the same." *Id.* at 1311-12 (citing *United States v. Frazier*, 26 F.3d 110, 113 (11th Cir. 1994); *United States v. Lee*, 477 F. App'x 539, 540 (11th Cir. 2010)). The Court, therefore, does not consider the facial distinction between the statutes at issue in *Dworkin* and this case a meaningful one. *See United States v. Garrett*, 253 F.3d 443, 448-49 (9th Cir. 2001) (discussing *Dworkin* in consideration of a challenge pursuant to § 3583(i)).

Bryant had not been subject to government supervision for nearly eight months when agents finally executed the arrest warrant. *See generally* doc. 63. The Government offers no explanation for the delay and consents to dismissing the Motion on Revocation of Supervised Release based on a lack of jurisdiction. Doc. 81.

Because "there was no, let alone a 'reasonable,' necessity to delay the revocation proceeding . . . [§ 3583] stripped this court of its power to revoke [supervised release] and impose another sentence." *Dworkin*, 70 F. Supp. 2d at 217. Accordingly, the Motion on Revocation of Supervised Release, doc. 63, should be **DISMISSED** for lack of jurisdiction. The Consent Motion to dismiss the revocation action, doc. 81, should be **GRANTED**.

This report and recommendation (R&R) is submitted to the district judge assigned to this action, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(B) and this Court's Local Rule 72.3. Within 14 days of service, any party may file written objections to this R&R with the Court and serve a copy on all parties. The document should be captioned "Objections to Magistrate Judge's Report and Recommendations." Any request for additional time

to file objections should be filed with the Clerk for consideration by the

assigned district judge.

After the objections period has ended, the Clerk shall submit this

R&R together with any objections to the assigned district judge. The

district judge will review the magistrate judge's findings and

recommendation pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 636(b)(1)(C). The parties are

advised that failure to timely file objections will result in the waiver of

rights on appeal. 11th Cir. R. 3-1; see Symonette v. V.A. Leasing Corp.,

648 F. App'x 787, 790 (11th Cir. 2016); Mitchell v. United States, 612 F.

App'x 542, 545 (11th Cir. 2015).

SO REPORTED AND RECOMMENDED, this 27th day of

November, 2023.

CHRISTOPHER L. RAY

UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF GEORGIA

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